

Sunday, July 8, 2007

You Asked: Questions for God Week 5 – God, Is War Ever Just?

Part 1: Laying the Groundwork

1. _____ is the theme of Scripture.

1 John 4:7-12

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

2. _____ is God's ideal.

John 16:33

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

3. War is _____ Scripture.

Deuteronomy 20:16-18

Matthew 24:6

You will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come.

Revelation 12:7

And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back.

4. War is not a _____; it occurs because of _____.

Deuteronomy 9:1-6

Jeremiah 5:14-19

James 4:1-2

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ²You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God.

5. _____ in war is not _____.

Romans 13:1-7

Exodus 17:8-13

What about Luke 6:27-31?

- Written with _____ in mind
- More about _____ rather than protecting the innocent

Part 2: A Biblical View of War

"But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. (Luke 6:27-31)

1. War should be a _____ and _____ led.
2. Soldiers should seek to _____ rather than end it.
3. War should _____ occur to protect the innocent or stop evil.

What can I take away from this?

Ephesians 6:10-18

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

- There is a war going on for your _____.
- War requires _____.
- War requires the right _____.